10/585280

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PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 2418.95US01

Hironori Matsubara et al.

Application No.:

Unknown

Filed:

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Of Even Date

For:

METHOD FOR SEPARATING BAST FIBERS

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The listing of a reference herein is not an admission that the reference is prior art or that the reference is material to patentability.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application. No certification or fee is required.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas J. Christensen Registration No. 35,480

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					amed Inventor	Hironori Matsubara	
					art Unit Unknown		
				Examir	ner Name	Unknown	
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EXAMINER INITIAL	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup>			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
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EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant T <sup>6</sup> of Cited Document	
		JP 2003-2016	89	07.	//18/2003	Sakurai	X (abstract)
		JP 11-241284		09	/07/1999	Onda	X (abstract)
		JP 2002-105737			/10/2002	Miyaki	X (abstract)
		JP 2001-3360	JP 2001-336022 1		/07/2001	Mori	X (abstract)
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.